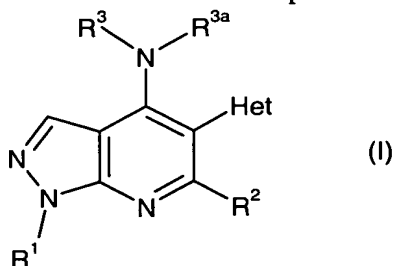


### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention relates to a compound of formula (I)



or a salt thereof: wherein:  $R^1$  is  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-3}$ fluoroalkyl or  $-(CH_2)_2OH$ ;  $R^2$  is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or  $C_1$ fluoroalkyl;  $R^{3a}$  is a hydrogen atom (H) or  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl;  $R^3$  is optionally substituted branched  $C_{3-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted mono-unsaturated- $C_{5-7}$ cycloalkenyl, optionally substituted phenyl, or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc): in which  $n^1$  and  $n^2$  independently are 1 or 2; and Y is O, S,  $SO_2$ , or  $NR^4$ ; and wherein Het is of sub-formula (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) or (v): The compounds are phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitors, in particular PDE4 inhibitors. Also provided is the use of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a mammal such as a human, for example chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, or allergic rhinitis.